



NEWS RELEASE

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SCOTT PETERS

First District

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Peters Unanimously Elected to Second Term as President

SAN DIEGO -- City Councilman Scott Peters was unanimously elected by his colleagues to a second term as Council President today. The office of Council President was created by the change to a strong Mayor/strong Council form of government, approved by voters in 2004 and which took effect on January 1, 2006. Each year, the City Council elects one of its members to serve as President for a one-year term, with a limit of two terms served.

Following his election, Council President Peters delivered these remarks:

“I want to thank each of my Council colleagues for your show of support in returning me to a second term as President. Your trust and confidence has been an inspiration as we work to establish the roles and responsibilities of all elected officials under this new form of government. My thanks as well to the many community members who came out today to express their support.

This City Council should be proud of the many things we’ve accomplished this year. Each of us was elected or re-elected with the goal of restoring the City’s fiscal health. We are well on the way to reform, after the completion of the Audit Committee’s report, and our work on Mayor Jerry Sanders’ reform package and financial reports.

We have also worked to improve the quality of life we all enjoy in San Diego. We passed a ban on smoking in city parks and beaches, which was the first law passed by the Council as an independent legislature. We made progress towards street, sidewalk and infrastructure repair, and continued our progress on clean water issues.

There is still much work to be done. My goals for 2007 include:

- developing and funding a plan to keep police on the streets
- establishing easy-to-understand budget plans that allow us to anticipate and pay the true cost of services
- finding ways to reduce the pension deficit through negotiations with employee groups

- keeping the Chargers in San Diego County
- working with our Congressional leaders to secure federal funds for transportation and other projects

Last year at this time, I anticipated that an independent legislature might not always agree with the mayor, but that we would listen to each other, communicate and find common ground on the issues facing the City.

We hit a few minor bumps in the road this year, as you might expect with any major change. But the lines of communication between the mayor and council remain open and strong. The relationships we have built this year will allow us to move more quickly on our goals for 2007.

I am deeply grateful to my Council colleagues for your vote of support today. I look forward to working with each of you, along with Mayor Sanders, the City Attorney and the taxpayers, to build upon the foundation laid out in this inaugural year.”

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